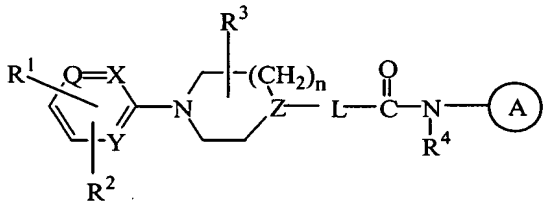
This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the captioned application.

1. (Original) A compound of formula (I),



(I)

the *N*-oxide forms, the pharmaceutically acceptable addition salts and the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, wherein

n is 0, 1, 2 or 3 and when n is 0 then a direct bond is intended;

each Q is nitrogen or  ;

each X is nitrogen or  ;

each Y is nitrogen or  ;

each Z is nitrogen or  ;

R^1 is $-C(O)NR^7R^8$, $-N(H)C(O)R^9$, $-C(O)-C_{1-6}$alkanediylSR^9, $-NR^{10}C(O)N(OH)R^9$, $-NR^{10}C(O)C_{1-6}$alkanediylSR^9, $-NR^{10}C(O)C{=}N(OH)R^9$ or another Zn-chelating-group
wherein R^7 and R^8 are each independently selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, aminoC_{1-6}alkyl or aminoaryl;
R^9 is independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl, arylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylpyrazinyl, pyridinone, pyrrolidinone or methylimidazolyl;
R^{10} is independently selected from hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl;

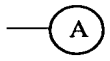
R^2 is hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, amino, nitro, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, trifluoromethyl, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino, hydroxyamino or naphtalenylsulfonylpyrazinyl;

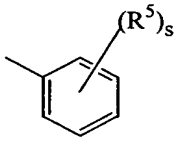
R^3 is hydrogen, hydroxy, amino, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, arylC_{1-6}alkyl, aminocarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, aminocarbonylC_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxycarbonylC_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxyaminocarbonyl,

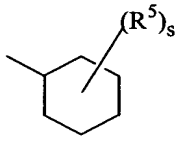
C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{1-6}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkyl or di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl;

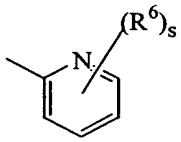
when Z is equal to nitrogen, then-L- is a direct bond;
when Z is equal to  , then –L- is –NH- or the bivalent radical -C_{1-6}alkanediylNH-;

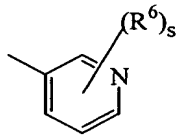
R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl or aryl;

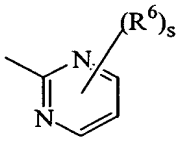
 is a radical selected from

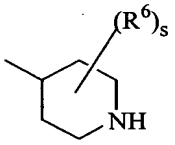

(a-1)

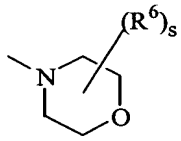

(a-2)

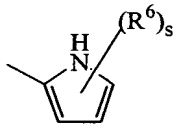

(a-3)

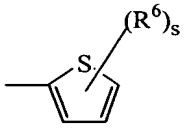

(a-4)

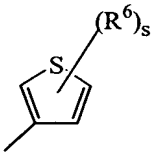

(a-5)

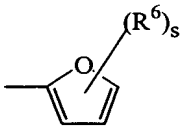

(a-6)

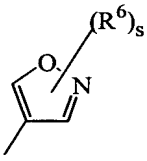

(a-7)

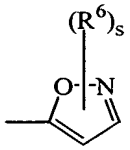

(a-8)

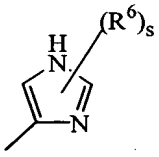

(a-9)

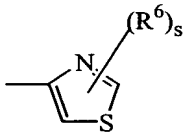

(a-10)

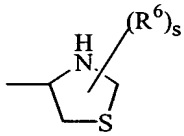

(a-11)

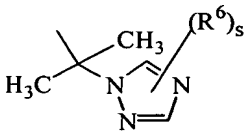

(a-12)

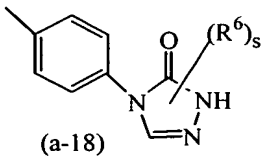

(a-13)

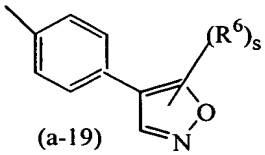

(a-14)

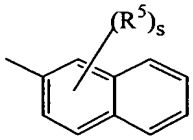

(a-15)

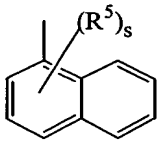

(a-16)

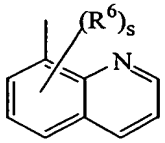

(a-17)

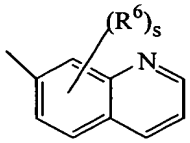

(a-18)

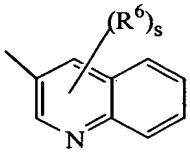

(a-19)

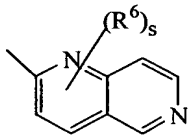

(a-20)

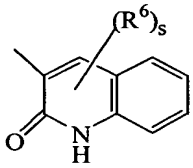

(a-21)

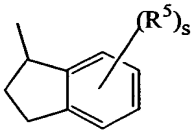

(a-22)

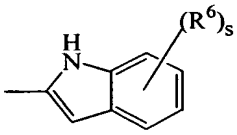

(a-23)

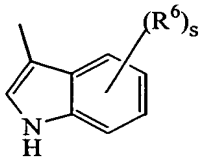

(a-24)

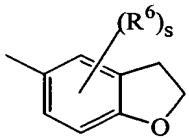

(a-25)

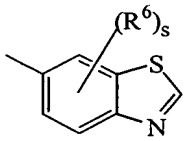

(a-26)

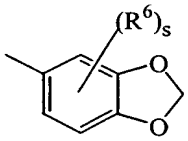

(a-27)

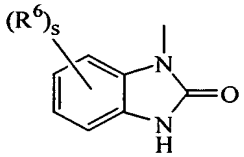

(a-28)

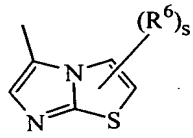

(a-29)

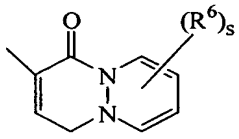

(a-30)

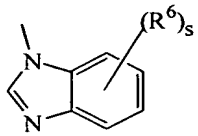

(a-31)

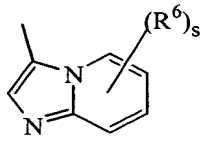

(a-32)

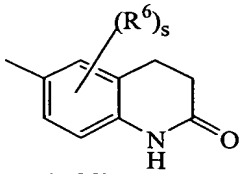

(a-33)

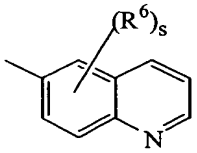

(a-34)

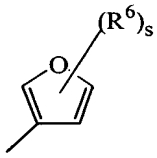

(a-35)

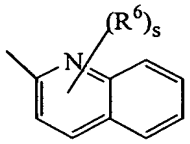

(a-36)


(a-37)

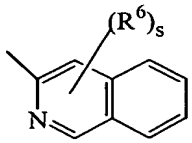

(a-38)


(a-39)

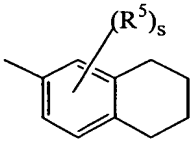

(a-40)



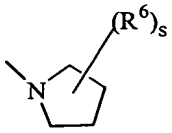
(a-41)



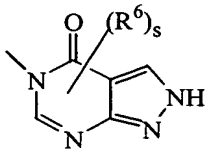
(a-42)



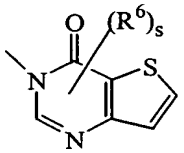
(a-43)



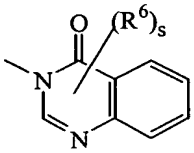
(a-44)



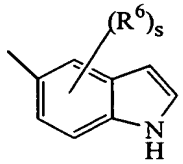
(a-45)



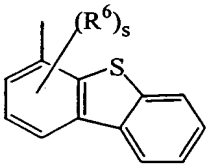
(a-46)



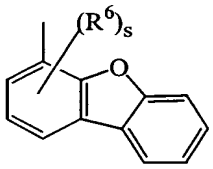
(a-47)



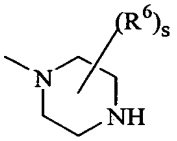
(a-48)



(a-49)



(a-50)



(a-51)

wherein each s is independently 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

each R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from hydrogen; halo; hydroxy; amino; nitro; trihaloC_{1-6}alkyl; trihaloC_{1-6}alkyloxy; C_{1-6}alkyl; C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with aryl and C_{3-10}cycloalkyl; C_{1-6}alkyloxy; C_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkyloxy; C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl; C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl; C_{1-6}alkylsulfonyl; cyanoC_{1-6}alkyl; hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl; hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyloxy; hydroxyC_{1-6}alkylamino; aminoC_{1-6}alkyloxy; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminocarbonyl; di(hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl)amino; (aryl)(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyloxy; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkylamino; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkyl; arylsulfonyl; arylsulfonylamino; aryloxy; aryloxyC_{1-6}alkyl; arylC_{2-6}alkenediyl; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl; aminosulfonylamino(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino; aminosulfonylamino(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminosulfonylamino(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminosulfonylamino(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl; cyano; thiophenyl; thiophenyl substituted with di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkyl,

hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminosulfonylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxypiperidinyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxypiperidinylC_{1-6}alkyl, morpholinylC_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, or di(hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl; furanyl; furanyl substituted with hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl; benzofuranyl; imidazolyl; oxazolyl; oxazolyl substituted with aryl and C_{1-6}alkyl; C_{1-6}alkyltriazolyl; tetrazolyl; pyrrolidinyl; pyrrolyl; piperidinylC_{1-6}alkyloxy; morpholinyl; C_{1-6}alkylmorpholinyl; morpholinylC_{1-6}alkyloxy; morpholinylC_{1-6}alkyl; morpholinylC_{1-6}alkylamino; morpholinylC_{1-6}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkyl; piperazinyl; C_{1-6}alkylpiperazinyl; C_{1-6}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkyloxy; piperazinylC_{1-6}alkyl; naphtalenylsulfonylpiperazinyl; naphtalenylsulfonylpiperidinyl; naphtalenylsulfonyl: C_{1-6}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkyl; C_{1-6}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkylamino; C_{1-6}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkyl; C_{1-6}alkylpiperazinylsulfonyl; aminosulfonylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkyloxy; aminosulfonylpiperazinyl; aminosulfonylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkyl; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminosulfonylpiperazinyl; di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminosulfonylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkyl; hydroxyC_{1-6}alkylpiperazinyl; hydroxyC_{1-6}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkyl; C_{1-6}alkyloxypiperidinyl; C_{1-6}alkyloxypiperidinylC_{1-6}alkyl; piperidinylaminoC_{1-6}alkylamino; piperidinylaminoC_{1-6}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkyl; (C_{1-6}alkylpiperidinyl)(hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkylamino; (C_{1-6}alkylpiperidinyl)(hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkyl; hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkylpiperazinyl; hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyloxyC_{1-6}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkyl; (hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl)(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino; (hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl)(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl; hydroxyC_{1-6}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkyl; di(hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl; pyrrolidinylC_{1-6}alkyl; pyrrolidinylC_{1-6}alkyloxy; pyrazolyl; thiopyrazolyl; pyrazolyl substituted with two substituents selected from C_{1-6}alkyl or trihaloC_{1-6}alkyl; pyridinyl; pyridinyl substituted with C_{1-6}alkyloxy, aryloxy or aryl; pyrimidinyl; tetrahydropyrimidinylpiperazinyl; tetrahydropyrimidinylpiperazinylC_{1-6}alkyl; quinolinyl; indolyl; phenyl; phenyl substituted with one, two or three substituents independently selected from halo, amino, nitro, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethyloxy, hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyloxy, C_{1-4}alkylsulfonyl, C_{1-4}alkyloxyC_{1-4}alkyloxy, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, aminoC_{1-4}alkyloxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyloxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminocarbonyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl,

di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl,
di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino,
di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl,
aminosulfonylamino(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino,
aminosulfonylamino(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl,
di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulfonylamino(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino,
di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulfonylamino(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl, cyano,
piperidinylC_{1-4}alkyloxy, pyrrolidinylC_{1-4}alkyloxy, aminosulfonylpiperazinyl,
aminosulfonylpiperazinylC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulfonylpiperazinyl,
di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulfonylpiperazinylC_{1-4}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-4}alkylpiperazinyl,
hydroxyC_{1-4}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkyloxypiperidinyl,
C_{1-4}alkyloxypiperidinylC_{1-4}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyloxyC_{1-4}alkylpiperazinyl,
hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyloxyC_{1-4}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyl)(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, (hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyl)(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyl)amino, di(hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, furanyl,
furanyl substituted with –CH=CH-CH=CH-, pyrrolidinylC_{1-4}alkyl, pyrrolidinylC_{1-4}alkyloxy, morpholinyl, morpholinylC_{1-4}alkyloxy, morpholinylC_{1-4}alkyl,
morpholinylC_{1-4}alkylamino, morpholinylC_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, piperazinyl,
C_{1-4}alkylpiperazinyl, C_{1-4}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-4}alkyloxy, piperazinylC_{1-4}alkyl,
C_{1-4}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-4}alkylamino,
C_{1-4}alkylpiperazinylC_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkyl, tetrahydropyrimidinylpiperazinyl,
tetrahydropyrimidinylpiperazinylC_{1-4}alkyl, piperidinylaminoC_{1-4}alkylamino,
piperidinylaminoC_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl,
(C_{1-4}alkylpiperidinyl)(hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkylamino,
(C_{1-4}alkylpiperidinyl)(hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl,
pyridinylC_{1-4}alkyloxy,
hydroxyC_{1-4}alkylamino, hydroxyC_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl,
di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkylamino, aminothiadiazolyl,
aminosulfonylpiperazinylC_{1-4}alkyloxy, or thiophenylC_{1-4}alkylamino;

each R^5 and R^6 can be placed on the nitrogen in replacement of the hydrogen;

aryl in the above is phenyl, or phenyl substituted with one or more substituents each independently selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyloxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano or hydroxycarbonyl.

2. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein

each Z is nitrogen;

R^1 is $-C(O)NR^7R^8$, $-C(O)-C_{1-6}alkanediylSR^9$, $-NR^{10}C(O)N(OH)R^9$, $-NR^{10}C(O)C_{1-6}alkanediylSR^9$, $-NR^{10}C(O)C=N(OH)R^9$ or another Zn-chelating-group

wherein R^7 and R^8 are each independently selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, $hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl$, or $aminoC_{1-6}alkyl$;

R^2 is hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, amino, nitro, $C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{1-6}alkyloxy$, trifluoromethyl or $di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino$;

R^3 is hydrogen, hydroxy, amino, $hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{1-6}alkyloxy$, $arylC_{1-6}alkyl$, aminocarbonyl, $aminoC_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{1-6}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkyl$ or $di(C_{1-6}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkyl$;

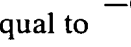
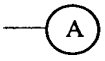
R^4 is hydrogen;

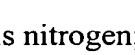
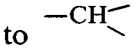
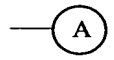
—(A) is a radical selected from (a-1), (a-3), (a-4), (a-5), (a-6), (a-7), (a-8), (a-9), (a-10), (a-11), (a-12), (a-13), (a-14), (a-15), (a-16), (a-17), (a-18), (a-19), (a-20), (a-21), (a-22), (a-23), (a-24), (a-25), (a-26), (a-28), (a-29), (a-30), (a-31), (a-32), (a-33), (a-34), (a-35), (a-36), (a-37), (a-38), (a-39), (a-40), (a-41), (a-42), (a-44), (a-45), (a-46), (a-47), (a-48) or (a-51);

each s is independently 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

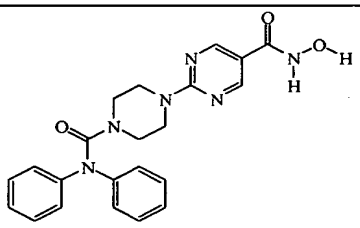
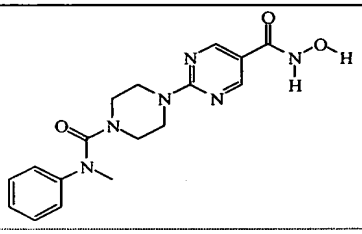
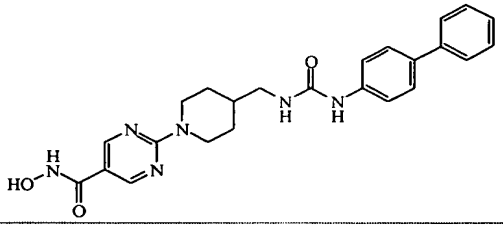
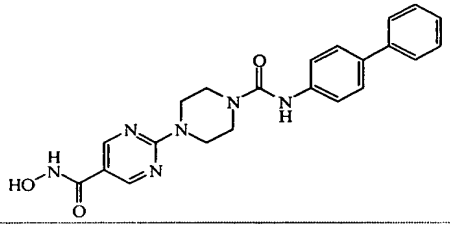
R^5 is hydrogen; halo; hydroxy; amino; nitro; $trihaloC_{1-6}alkyl$; $trihaloC_{1-6}alkyloxy$; $C_{1-6}alkyl$; $C_{1-6}alkyloxy$; $C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl$; $C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl$; $C_{1-6}alkylsulfonyl$; $hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl$; aryloxy; $di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino$; cyano; thiophenyl; furanyl; furanyl substituted with $hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl$; benzofuranyl; imidazolyl; oxazolyl; oxazolyl substituted with aryl and $C_{1-6}alkyl$; $C_{1-6}alkyltriazolyl$; tetrazolyl; pyrrolidinyl; pyrrolyl; morpholinyl; $C_{1-6}alkylmorpholinyl$; piperazinyl; $C_{1-6}alkylpiperazinyl$; $hydroxyC_{1-6}alkylpiperazinyl$; $C_{1-6}alkyloxypiperidinyl$; pyrazolyl; pyrazolyl substituted with one or two substituents selected from $C_{1-6}alkyl$ or $trihaloC_{1-6}alkyl$; pyridinyl; pyridinyl substituted with $C_{1-6}alkyloxy$, aryloxy or aryl; pyrimidinyl; quinolinyl; indole; phenyl; or phenyl substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from halo, $C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{1-6}alkyloxy$ or trifluoromethyl; and

R^6 is hydrogen; halo; hydroxy; amino; nitro; $trihaloC_{1-6}alkyl$; $trihaloC_{1-6}alkyloxy$; $C_{1-6}alkyl$; $C_{1-6}alkyloxy$; $C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl$; $C_{1-6}alkyloxycarbonyl$; $C_{1-6}alkylsulfonyl$; $hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl$; aryloxy; $di(C_{1-6}alkyl)amino$; cyano; pyridinyl; phenyl; or phenyl substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from halo, $C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{1-6}alkyloxy$ or trifluoromethyl.

3. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein n is 1; each Q is  ; R^1 is $-C(O)NR^7R^8$, or $-NHC(O)C_{1-6}$alkanediylSH wherein R^7 and R^8 are each independently selected from hydrogen, hydroxy or hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl; R^2 is hydrogen or nitro; R^3 is hydrogen; when Z is equal to  , then –L- is the bivalent radical $-C_{1-6}$alkanediylNH-; R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl or aryl;  is a radical selected from (a-1) or (a-21); each s is independently 0, 1 or 2; and each R^5 is independently selected from hydrogen; halo; trihaloC_{1-6}alkyl; trihaloC_{1-6}alkyloxy; C_{1-6}alkyl; C_{1-6}alkyloxy; C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl; aryloxy, cyano or phenyl.

4. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~and 3~~ wherein n is 1; each Q is  ; each X is nitrogen; each Y is nitrogen; R^1 is $-C(O)NH(OH)$; R^2 is hydrogen; R^3 is hydrogen; when Z is equal to  , then –L- is the bivalent radical $-C_{1-6}$alkanediylNH-; R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl or aryl;  is the radical (a-1); each s is independently 0 or 1; and each R^5 is independently selected from hydrogen or phenyl.

5. (Currently Amended) A compound ~~according to claim 1, 3 and 4~~ selected from the group consisting of compounds No. 4, No. 48, No. 5 and No. 6: [[.]]

	
Co. No. 4	Co. No. 48
	
Co. No. 5	Co. No. 6.

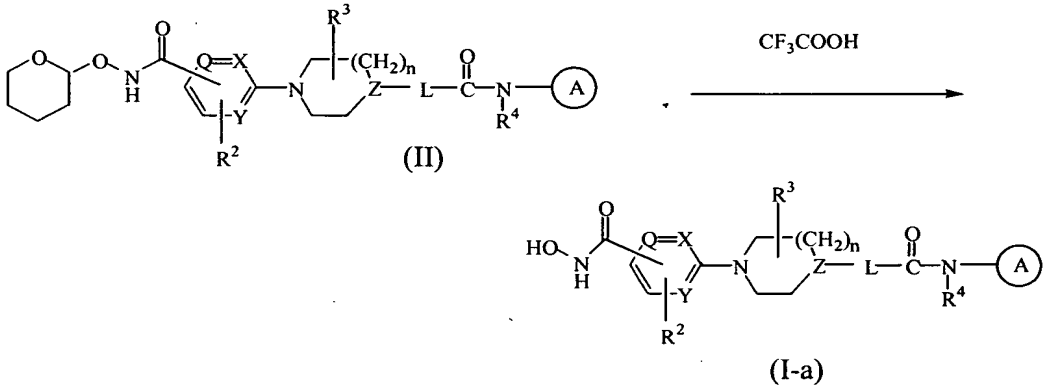
6. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and as an active ingredient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~to 5~~.

7. (Currently Amended) A process of preparing a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 6 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and a compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~to 5~~ are intimately mixed.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1, characterized by reacting an intermediate of formula (II) with an appropriate acid, such as for example, trifluoro acetic acid, yielding a hydroxamic acid of formula (I-a), wherein R^1 is –C(O)NH(OH).



(II)

(I-a)

11. (Original) A method of detecting or identifying a HDAC in a biological sample comprising detecting or measuring the formation of a complex between a labelled compound as defined in claim (I) and a HDAC.

12. (Currently Amended) A combination of an anti-cancer agents and a HDAC inhibitor as claimed in ~~any of claims~~ claim1 ~~to 5~~.